World Bank loan for implementation of Slum Sanitation Programme on Mumbai

2226. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for obtaining loan from World Bank through the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance for implementing Slum Sanitation Programme, stage-ll in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Ministry of Finance has not received any proposal for implementing Slum Sanitation Programme Stage-ll in Mumbai. However, Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation for Slum Sanitation Programme, Stage-ll.

(b) The Slum Sanitation Programme (Stage-ll) is proposed to be implemented in 7 years upto 2010 and the cost of the works is Rs. 4800 million, including engineering services towards design, project management and physical and cost contingents. The project aims to provide sustainable improvements to the sanitation, based on demand driven participatory approach, for the benefit of slum dwellers located on municipal, private and Government lands to provide water, severage, storm water network in and around slums and to integrate the system with the city network and to provide solid waste collection and disposal mechanism with the help of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) from amongst the slum dwellers.

(c) The proposal has been examined by the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation and they have sought certain clarifications from the Government of Maharashtra.

Victimisation of Tsunami affected people by private money lenders

2227. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private money lenders have come forward to help the victims of Tsunami by giving them financial assistance on exorbitant interest rates;

(b) whether such lenders are creating trouble for Government and other authorities to carry on their rehabilitation programmes;

(c) whether they will grab all the help to be given to the poor fishermen and others;

(d) the details of suitable measures taken to prevent such people from continuing their nefarious activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

New pension scheme

2228. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the names of the States which have given their consent to join the pension scheme;

(d) whether the new pension scheme is open to all Government employees and voluntarily for the private sector;

(e) if so, the details in this regard; and

(f) the salient features of the new pension scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Government proposes to introduce a Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill replacing the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Ordinance, 2004 which was promulgated on 29.12.2004.